

Tempe Art in Private Development



Safeway Shopping Center

1515 E. Elliot Road

Garry Price

Hummingbird Garden, 1997

Perforated steel, tubular steel, powder coating, copper

Description: Arizona boasts the highest number of species of hummingbirds per state. These fascinating animals serve as the inspiration for Price's addition to the Safeway Shopping Center. Plants that are known to attract hummingbirds are featured in the landscaping, as well as a series of sculptural trellises that mimic large flowers. Small benches with leaf-shaped canopy coverings provide a welcome place to relax in the midday heat. In addition, ground lighting is installed so that nighttime visitors can also appreciate the artworks. Garry Price notes, "I'm drawn to the seams of the world. The edges between the riparian zone and forest, fast water and smooth flow currents, industrial and residential, layers in a cliff face. It's the dialog of differences that spark my curiosity. A direct conversation of disparate elements is what I work to visually describe."

Artist biography: Garry Price has been doing art projects that strive to enhance a public place, creating sculptures that add vitality, significance and elegance to the community experience. He works to enliven the site with a glimpse of the rich layers of human and natural history that give meaning to a place. Price's projects have used functional elements and sculpture in many materials to design attractive and thoughtful public places. He has a strong ability to conceptualize and work with a wide range of materials to create works that go beyond easy interpretation and can sustain interest over repeated viewings. Materials choices are determined by the appropriateness to the site and to the idea. Price's work has been published around the globe in journals such as *Ceramics Monthly, Interiors, Interior Design* and *American Craft*.

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